

RECEIVED
OREGON OPERATIONS OFFICE

AUG 15 2016

EPA-REGION 10

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ATTN: Harbor Comments
805 SW Broadway
Suite 500
Portland, OR 97205

I strongly oppose the \$1.4 billion plan to clean up the Willamette River. Are people actually getting sick from the river? How are sediments under the riverbed affecting people's health? That should be the focus when determining whether adding more tax burden to Portland residents is really necessary. We have much more to worry about and more beneficial things we could do with that money, like helping the homeless. It seems that our priorities are upside down.

The overuse of dredging will hurt the economy more than help when the riverfront is practically shut down for decades. Layoffs and lost money from people not working will actually push costs for this cleanup over \$1 billion. I'm a small business owner and can barely pay my medical expenses now as it is. I really cannot afford adding more to my costs with my property taxes increasing over the last four years.

Furthermore, this plan does not justify recontaminating the river if it is already getting better through a natural process. Besides, I'm skeptical about a plan that is based on 10 year old data. Things have changed in the last 10 years! This just boils down to more government waste. Literally. If things are so bad, despite no one becoming sick from the river, the EPA needs to find a simpler, less invasive approach. One that will not cost so much in time, money and local resources.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)



(b) (6)



Portland, OR 97236